

Message Text

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ACTION EA-07

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FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1191

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 1572

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TW

SUBJECT: CHINESE NAME FOR AMBASSADOR UNGER

REF: STATE 046580

FOR EA AMBASSADOR UNGER FROM GLEYSTEN

1. I APOLOGIZE IN ADVANCE FOR TRYING TO RECTIFY A RECTIFICATION. WHILE CHINESE NAME YOU HAVE SELECTED COULD BE USED WITHOUT UNDUE DIFFICULTY, THERE ARE SOME DRAWBACKS I THINK YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF. MOST CHINESE HERE WHO HAVE SEEN THE NAME TEND NOT TO LIKE IT. MOREOVER, SURNAME "AN" (STC 1344) MORE COMMONLY USED BY MANCHUS THAN BY HAN CHINESE, AND RAISES POSSIBILITY THAT WHEN CHINESE SPEAKERS ATTEMPT TO PRONOUNCE YOUR NAME IN ENGLISH, IT WILL COME OUT AS "AMBASSADOR ANGER". "K'O-CHIH" ITSELF DOES NOT QUITE CARRY THROUGH THE TRANSLITERATION; NOR IS IT A NAME FAMILIAR TO CHINESE.

2. BEFORE DECIDING FINALLY, YOU MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER SOME OF THE FOLLOWING POSSIBILITIES:

A. USE OF SURNAME "WEN" (STC 3306 OR "YUAN"(STC 7086) VICE "AN". THIS WOULD GET US AWAY FROM THE "ANGER" PROBLEM.

B. WITH EITHER OF THE ABOVE SURNAMES, USE PERSONAL NAME "KUO-JUI" (STC 0948/3843), PRONOUNCED GWO-WRAY. THIS CARRIES THROUGH THE TRANSLITERATION SOMEWHAT BETTER THAN "K'O-CHIH", AND AT THE SAME TIME IS OFTEN USED AS A CHINESE NAME AND HAS QUITE GOOD CONNOTATIONS.

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C. ALTERNATIVELY, DROP TRANSLITERATION AS CONSIDERATION

AS FAR AS THE PERSONAL NAME IS CONCERNED, AND SELECT ONE
BASED UPON "LEONARD". IN THAT CONNECTION, WE WOULD SUGGEST
"LI-TE" (STC 4539/1795), AGAIN AN OFTEN USED NAME WITH
VERY GOOD CONNOTATIONS.

3. TO KEEP A SENSE OF PROPORTION ABOUT THIS MATTER, I
SHOULD ADD THAT I HAVE A VERY PECULIAR CHINESE NAME WHICH
HAS NEVER DONE ME ANY HARM -- THAT I AM AWARE OF.
MCCONAUGHY

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